

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- against -

ORDER

COLINFORD MATTIS and
UROOJ RAHMAN,

20 MJ 402 and 403

Defendants.

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Gold, S., United States Magistrate Judge:

A question has arisen with respect to whether the potential for conflict between two defendants—Urooj Rahman, charged in this action, and Samantha Shader, charged in 20-MJ-403—is sufficient to warrant appointment of separate counsel. A telephone conference was held earlier today, during which I directed the Government to submit a letter explaining the basis for its position that there is such a conflict. Because the information I sought from the Government related to an ongoing investigation, I authorized the Government to submit its letter *ex parte*.

Having now reviewed the letter, I conclude that the potential conflict is sufficient to warrant appointment of separate counsel, and I direct the Clerk to appoint separate attorneys for defendants Rahman and Shader.

The Clerk is directed to file the Government's letter under seal and *ex parte*, with access restricted to the Court and filer only. This Order shall be filed on the public docket without restriction.

SO ORDERED.



Steven M. Gold
United States Magistrate Judge

Brooklyn, New York
June 1, 2020